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The importance of Environmental testing by James Blee

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Environmental testingis very important for many industries and is crucial to test the safety and durability of many different products. Environmental testing will show how things react when placed in different environmental conditions. Typical environmental testing will test different humidityâ€™s, temperatures, thermal shock and salt corrosion which can have a big impact on equipment that will be used outdoors. Many pieces of military equipment will have to undergo environmental testing as it is vital that machinery and vehicles can operate effectively in all sorts of environmental conditions.

Environmental testing is carried out in environmental chambers by specialist companies who possess all the necessary equipment to perform rigorous tests. Testing is most commonly carried out on vehicles, planes, glass and machinery that will subjected to various environmental conditions during their use. Salt is one of the biggest causes of damage to vehicles and machinery and companies will invest heavily in salt corrosion environmental testing to ensure their products can withstand this. There are various protective coatings that can be added to vehicles and machinery to help protect them from salt corrosion and prolong their life. Environmental chambers can be set up to test extreme temperatures, moisture, vibrations, shock, electromagnetic radiations, salt spray, weathering and UV exposure so have many uses across a wide range of industries.

Inside environmental chambers are various enclosures to test for specific environmental conditions. Environmental testing is necessary to ensure that products can withstand being used in their intended environments without damage. As well as environmental conditions environmental chambers can also be used to test for the effects of vibration and shock as this can also damage vehicles, machinery and other equipment. Products should be able to withstand a reasonable amount of shock or vibration without hindering their performance but this is something that environmental testing will check to ensure that no damage occurs during these processes.

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